IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Matsumoto Examiner: Katrina R. Fujita

Appl. No. : 10/816,978 Grp./A.U.: 2624

Filed : April 2, 2004 Confirmation No.: 1697

Title : MEDICAL IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS, AND MEDICAL

IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD

Docket No. : 060233.00005

RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 14, 2007, please amend the claims as follows and consider the accompanying remarks. This amendment has been prepared in accordance with the rules promulgated under 37 CFR §1.121.

Amendments to the Specification are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 16 of this paper.